



Altoona Youth Baseball Rookie League Rules

1. Player eligibility: K - 2nd grade as of April 30, 2017
2. Game Length: Max of 6 innings or time limit of 1 hour and 15 minutes. Innings started before the time limit will be completed and will be at the umpires discretion.
3. Ten players on the field (max), minimum of eight players.
4. Each team is limited to maximum of 5 runs per inning.
5. No base stealing or leading off.
6. All players must play at least 2 innings at an infield position for every 4 innings played. The innings played at a position can be consecutive or not. This is left to the coaches discretion whether they want to rotate their players every inning or every two. All four outfielders must play behind the infielders on the outfield grass. A player cannot play more than two innings in a game at one position.
7. All players must play each game and all players must sit on an equally rotating basis from game to game.
8. Coaches from both teams will work together and ump the game. There will be no arguments.
9. To encourage throws to put out base runners and to keep scores low, no runner will be allowed to advance on an overthrow. Coaches are encouraged to stop runners from advancing once the ball is in the infield.
10. Coaches pitch to their own team for the entire season using a pitching machine.
11. There are no walks. If a batter strikes out on three swings, it is an out, but the coach will then soft toss 3 times to the hitter at a 45 degree angle. Failure to hit the ball in fair territory after three tosses will result in a strikeout. The ball is a live hit off of soft toss and considered a hit as if it were hit off a pitch. The at bat goes in the book as an out, but if the player is safe on base he stays on base and can score. If a runner ahead of the batter is called out by a play in the field off of the soft toss hit, they are out, but only one out is recorded in the book. It would only go in the book if the players actually turn a double play in the field.
12. After 8 pitches, if the batter has not struck out, the coach will soft toss 3 times to them at a 45 degree angle, failure to hit the ball in fair territory after three tosses will result in a strikeout.
13. Batter hit by pitches thrown by coaches do not advance to first base.
14. Each team will have the same batting order, which includes every player, for the entire season. The leadoff batter for each game will be the player who was on deck at the end of the previous game.
15. Bunting is not allowed.
16. Pitches that hit the batter while swinging are considered strikes
17. Two coaches are allowed to stand in the outfield behind the infielders while his/her team is in the field for the entire season.
18. Teams must have 8 or more players present at the scheduled start time or the game is forfeited. Coaches may then form equal teams and play during the game time. If both teams have less than 8 players at the scheduled start time, the teams may either play short with an equal number of players on each team or reschedule the game.

Sportsmanship: Coaches, players and spectators are all expected to show good sportsmanship. The coaches must remember that they are role models for the players. Therefore, all coaches are expected to remain calm under all circumstances, follow all of the rules stated above and show respect to umpires, follow coaches and players.

Throwing bats, gloves, and /or helmets, refusing to shake hands at the end of the game or throwing tantrums by players or coaches will not be tolerated. If a coach or spectator notices any players or coaches behaving in this fashion, it should be brought to the attention of the players head coach or any member of the AYS&B board, and the head coach is expected to talk with the player and/or parents.

If it is noted that if a coach is not following all the rules or is acting in an un-sportsman like way the coaches should discuss this in a calm, respectful fashion. If the disagreement is not resolved, it should be brought to the attention of the AYS&B board.

Rules are subject to adjustment each year